

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:) Examiner: Afremova, Vera
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Liu et al.) Group Art Unit: 1657
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Serial No.: 10/574,163)
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Filed: March 29, 2006) Date Transmitted:
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For: IMMORTALIZED HEPATOCYTES) October 3, 2007
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SECOND SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Mail Stop: Amendment
Honorable Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This document is a Second Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement to the above-cited patent application.

Attached is at least one form PTO/SB/08A/B listing documents believed relevant to the subject application. The submission of the following information is not intended, nor should it be construed, to constitute an admission that any patent, article, or other information referred to herein is "prior art" unless specifically designated as such. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b), the filing of this information shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made or that no other material information may exist. Neither should its submission be construed to indicate that a thorough search should not be conducted by the Examiner.

It is believed that this disclosure complies with the requirements of 37 C.F.R. § 1.96, § 1.97, and § 1.98 and the Manual of Patent Examining Procedures § 707.05(b). If for some reason the Examiner considers otherwise, it is respectfully requested that the undersigned be telephoned at (858) 450-0099 so that any deficiencies can be remedied.

Each item of information contained in this Second Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office, namely the Singapore Patent Office, in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(d) and 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e). The communication from the Singapore Patent Office was mailed on July 31, 2007 and included a search report. Therefore, even if an Office Action on the merits has been mailed for the above-identified patent application, no fee is due for the submission of this Second Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement.

A copy of each document is enclosed, except for issued United States patents and published United States patent applications pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2)(ii). Some of the documents may have markings thereon. No significance is to be attached to the markings. These documents are not necessarily analogous art. Additionally, the order of the following documents is to be accorded no particular import, as the order thereof is completely fortuitous.

It is respectfully requested that these documents be: (1) fully considered by the Patent and Trademark Office during the prosecution of this application; and (2) represented on any patent which may issue on the application. Applicant respectfully requests that copies of the forms PTO/SB/08A/B, as considered and initialed by the Examiner, be returned with the next communication.

U.S. Patent No. 7,186,553 to Nanba et al., issued on March 6, 2007, which issued on a national stage application filed on August 13, 2001, filed on PCT Application No. PCT/JP99/02224, originally filed on April 27, 1999 and published as PCT Patent Publication No. WO99/055853 on November 4, 1999. The Singapore search report cited Japanese Patent Publication No. JP2000/014390, but the above-cited United States patent is equivalent and is in English; it is listed as a patent family member in the search report and thus is cited herein.

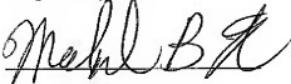
A published PCT patent application, PCT Patent Publication No. WO 00/18239 by Fox et al., published on April 6, 2000.

A published European patent application, European Patent Publication No. 1083223 by Nanba et al., published on March 14, 2001.

For the purposes of completeness, the Singapore search report also cited: (1) PCT Patent Publication WO 94/20607; and (2) U.S. Patent No. 6,107,043. The first of these references, PCT Patent Publication WO 94/20607, is equivalent to U.S. Patent No. 5,665,589 to Harris et al., issued on September 9, 1997, previously cited to the Examiner. The second of these references, U.S. Patent No. 6,107,043 to Jauregui et al., was also previously cited to the Examiner.

If any issues remain, the Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone
the undersigned at (858) 450-0099 x302.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: October 3, 2007

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